

[MR. R. NILAKANTA PILLAI.]

The question that Clause V, with the amendment proposed by Mr. Kayalam Paramesvaran Pillai, do stand part of the Bill was put and carried; and the clause as amended was added to the Bill.

Clauses VI, VII and VIII.

The question that clauses VI, VII and VIII do stand part of the Bill was put and carried; and the clauses were added to the Bill.

The question that the Preamble do stand part of the Bill was then put and carried.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): I beg to move that the Bill as settled by the Council be taken up at a subsequent meeting and passed.

MR. R. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Financial Secretary to Government*): I second it.

The motion was carried.

THE TRAVANCORE TOWN PLANNING BILL.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): Sir, I rise to introduce the Travancore Town Planning Bill. It has been published in the Gazette with a Statement of Objects and Reasons; and I now beg to move that the Bill be read in Council.

MR. R. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Financial Secretary to Government*): I second it.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): I shall now briefly explain the principles involved in the Bill. As will be noticed from the Preamble to the Bill, the general object of this measure is the development of towns. That development is proposed to be achieved by means of a previously settled plan called a town-planning scheme. The object of such regulation is, as is explained in the Preamble to the Bill to secure, to their present and future inhabitants, sanitary conditions, amity and convenience. What a town is will be readily understood. A town is a collection of houses or buildings with an agglomeration of population. The buildings need not necessarily be residential. Their purpose may be industrial or educational, or ameliorative, curative and so forth. And, the population that conglomerates in a town does so for various purposes, not necessarily residential. Thus, what go to make up a town are the various classes of buildings together with the open space, the roads, the drainage system, lighting system, etc. Now this town has grown up not in a day or two but day by day, and bit by bit. It is growing up in a haphazard manner without any previous design. We can easily imagine what a town will be like and what the consequences will be if a town grows up in this fashion without any arrangement. There may be a school here and immediately next to it there may be a factory emitting offensive fumes, and next to it a hospital. The residential quarters may be in one place and the commercial quarters in another place, say, five miles away. The roads may be narrow, and traffic may not be easy on such roads. There may not be space enough for motor cars to pass, and even if you want to widen the roads it may not be possible to do so now at a

reasonable cost. These conditions which affect the sanitation, convenience and amenity do not arise by any deliberate action of course. They are more by accident or rather by an utter absence of any well-defined plan or design in the development of the town. An expert in Town-Planning recently explained that the sanitary conditions, convenience and amenity represent the three-fold nature of man, namely, the body, mind and spirit. Sanitary conditions are required for his physical well-being, *i. e.*, to make urban life possible. Convenience is required for his mental balance, *i. e.*, to make urban life tolerable. And amenity is required to meet the desires of his senses, that is, to make urban life attractive. Thus, to serve the citizen in his threefold requirements it is necessary that the town should be planned before hand in some definite manner.

To plan is to take forethought. Town-planning is the use of intelligence and forethought in the development of towns. That being so, you must intelligently design beforehand and make the town grow according to that design. Even if you look at it from a merely economic point of view it will be seen that to plan beforehand and then make a thing according to the plan is cheaper. It is only a millionaire who can afford to do things without a plan, that is, without counting the cost. A man who does things without planning, if he is not rich, is rightly regarded as a fool. We say of him that 'his head will never save his heels'. The poorer the man and the poorer the town, the more essential does a plan become. That being a patent fact it is always cheaper to develop the towns in accordance with some well-defined plan. I am not an expert enough to point out the various defects of our towns. I would draw the attention of the House to what may perhaps be taken to be a defect of Trivandrum merely to illustrate my point. Take the case of the Chalai bazaar. It is a busy centre but has a very narrow road between the two rows of shops for the shop-goers and the ordinary passer by and also for the goods wagons, *chakkada vandis*, as also for the men with head-loads. All these have to pass by the same narrow road. Now, just imagine that at the time when the Chalai bazaar was being built there were a plan and anticipating the future, parallel roads behind the shops had been constructed even then. What a convenience it would have been? Apart from the mere convenience it would be more economic for the shop-owners to bring the goods and therefore for the purchasers also, not to speak of sanitary conditions. I do not want to expatiate on the many advantages of a town-planning system. There is legislative provision for town-planning in England. In India, there is an Act in Madras. This Bill is drawn up generally on the lines of the Madras Act with one difference. According to the Madras Act it is compulsory for every Municipality to prepare a scheme and submit it to Government. But here I have left it to the option of the Municipality concerned. In regard to the details of the provisions of the Bill, I have explained it in the Statement of Objects and Reasons, and I need not reiterate all that. I

[Mr. Kayalam Parameswaran Pillai]

may add, in support of the necessity for the measure that the Government, having in view an extension of the Trivandrum town, decided to have a town-planning law passed, so that it may be directly applied to the extension.

Independently of the Government's intentions, the Trivandrum Municipal Council considered the matter and they recommended to Government the passing of a law for town-planning on the lines of the Madras Act. Besides, the P. W. Department who are in charge of roads, who are very often called upon to ease curves of roads, also felt the need for a town-planning law. This Bill has accordingly been prepared and placed before the House.

MR. O. M. THOMAS (*Kottayam*): Is there any other Municipality than the Trivandrum Municipality that has sent up a recommendation?

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): I am not aware of any other Municipality.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Kottarakara cum Kunnattur*): I support the introduction of the Bill in general. I have to make one observation. As observed by the Law Member, the Bill, in the Preamble, contemplates that it is expedient that the development of towns should be regulated to secure, to their present and future inhabitants, sanitary conditions, amenities and convenience. My submission is that in the corresponding piece of legislation, that is, in the Madras Act referred to by the Law Member, there is a Section, the provisions of which are applicable to the villages also, when and if, it is considered necessary. Here, we have just begun to put into operation provisions of the Village Panchayat Regulation which also contains provisions for sanitary improvements and irrigational facilities and such other things as are contemplated by this piece of legislation. So, my point is that, when this Bill is considered in detail, by the Select Committee, the provision on the lines of the Madras Act may be made applicable to the villages in Travancore also and a provision be added on to the Bill. With these few observations, I support the principle of the Bill.

MR. P. S. MAHOMED (*Nominated*): സർ, ടൗൺ പ്ലാനിങ്ങ് ബില്ലിന്റെ പ്രധാന ഉദ്ദേശം ടൗൺവാസികൾക്കു കൂടുതൽ സുഖവും ആരോഗ്യവും ഉണ്ടാക്കുക എന്നുള്ളതാണ്. മറ്റു സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ നിന്നും ജനങ്ങൾ പല സംഗതികളെ ഉദ്ദേശിച്ചും ടൗൺകളിൽ വന്നു തിങ്ങി കൂടിപ്പാകുന്നതായി കാണുവാൻ കഴിയും. പട്ടണങ്ങളിലെന്നല്ല ഏതു ഭാഗത്തും താമസിക്കുന്നവരുടെ ആരോഗ്യത്തെയാണ് ഗവണ്മെൻ്റ് പ്രധാനമായി നോക്കേണ്ടത്. ജനങ്ങളുടെ ആരോഗ്യത്തെ നശിപ്പിക്കുന്നതിന് ടൗൺകൾ പോലെ പറ്റിയതായി മറ്റൊരു സ്ഥലവും ഉണ്ടെന്നു തോന്നുന്നില്ല. പല സ്ഥലത്തുമുള്ള മനിസിപ്പാലിറ്റികൾ ജനങ്ങളുടെ ആരോഗ്യത്തെ അടിസ്ഥാനപ്പെടുത്തി പലതും പ്രവർത്തിച്ചു വരുന്നുണ്ടെങ്കിലും അവരുടെ

[Mr. P. S. Mahomed.]

പ്രവർത്തി ശരിയായി ഫലിച്ചു കാണാതെയാണിരിക്കുന്നത്. ഉദാഹരണമായി ട്രൈബിനുള്ളിൽ തന്നെ ചില സ്ഥലങ്ങൾ കൃഷിസ്ഥലങ്ങളായിരിക്കും. അവിടെ നിന്നും കൊതുകു തുടങ്ങി സാംക്രമിക രോഗോല്പാദകമായ വിഷജന്തുക്കൾ പുറപ്പെട്ടു ട്രൈഫായിഡ് മുതലായ രോഗങ്ങൾ പരത്തി വരുന്നുണ്ട്. മുനിസിപ്പാലിറ്റി ഏതെല്ലാം വിധത്തിൽ ശ്രമിച്ചിട്ടും അതിനു ഒരു പരിഹാരം ഉണ്ടാക്കാൻ കഴിഞ്ഞിട്ടില്ല. ആലപ്പുഴ തന്നെ നോക്കുന്ന പക്ഷം ഇങ്ങനെയുള്ള സ്ഥലങ്ങൾ പലതുണ്ട്. ഇപ്പോൾ ഇവിടെ അവതരിപ്പിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള ബില്ലുകൊണ്ടല്ലാതെ മേൽപറഞ്ഞ ഭോഷത്തിനു ഒരു നിവർത്തിയും ഉണ്ടാക്കുവാൻ സാധിക്കുന്നതല്ല. ഈ സ്കീം കൊണ്ട് ജനങ്ങളുടെ ആരോഗ്യസ്ഥിതി നന്നാക്കാമെന്നുമാത്രമല്ല അതിലേക്കു ചിലവാക്കുന്ന പണത്തിനെ അപേക്ഷിച്ച് കൂടുതലായ ആദായം ലഭിക്കുകയും ചെയ്യും. ശുചീകരണവിഷയത്തിൽ മുനിസിപ്പാലിറ്റി കുമത്തിലധികമായ പ്രവർത്തിക്കുന്നുണ്ട്. ചില സ്ഥലങ്ങളെ സംബന്ധിച്ചു ഈ വിഷയത്തിൽ എത്ര തന്നെ ശ്രമിച്ച് പ്രവർത്തിച്ചാലും ഫലമില്ലാതെയാണ് കാണുന്നത്. ഉദാഹരണമായി ആലപ്പുഴയുള്ള മറക്കറു വാർഡിനെ തന്നെ എടുക്കാം. ഈ പ്രദേശത്തു താമസിക്കുന്നവർ മത്സ്യം പിടിച്ചു വില്ക്കുന്ന ഒരു കൂട്ടം ആളുകളാണ്.

MR. S. KRISHNA PILLAI (Karunagapalli): മെമ്പർ ഈ ബില്ലിനെ അനുകൂലിക്കുന്നുവോ പ്രതികൂലിക്കുന്നുവോ?

MR. P. S. MAHOMED (Nominated): ഞാനിതിനെ അനുകൂലിക്കുകയാണെന്നു എന്റെ പ്രസംഗത്തിൽ നിന്നും എന്റെ സ്റ്റേഫിതനു മനസ്സിലാക്കാൻ കഴിയാത്തതിൽ ഞാൻ വ്യസനിക്കുന്നു.

MR. S. KRISHNA PILLAI (Karunagapalli): എനിക്കു മനസ്സിലാക്കാൻ സാധിച്ചിട്ടില്ല. മെമ്പർ പ്രതികൂലിക്കുകയാണെങ്കിൽ മാത്രം ഈ മത്സ്യത്തിന്റെ കാര്യത്തെപ്പറ്റിയും മറ്റും ഭീർഘമായി പറഞ്ഞാൽ മതിയല്ലോ. അനുകൂലിക്കുകയാണെങ്കിൽ ഇത്ര ഭീർഘമായ പ്രസംഗത്തിന്റെ ആവശ്യമില്ലല്ലോ.

PRESIDENT: Mr. Krishna Pillai, please allow him to go on. He is explaining to make his position clear.

MR. P. S. MAHOMED (Nominated): അതിനെപ്പറ്റി പറയേണ്ട ആവശ്യമുണ്ടോ ഇല്ലയോ എന്നു നിശ്ചയിക്കേണ്ടതു പ്രസിഡൻറാണ്.

ഇങ്ങനെ ഈ മത്സ്യക്കച്ചവടക്കാർ ഒരു വീട്ടിനു മുകളിൽ ഒരു വീട്ടു എന്ന നിലയിൽ ചെറിയ ചെറിയ കുടിലുകൾ കെട്ടി അവയിലാണ് താമസിച്ചു വരുന്നത്. ഏതെല്ലാം വിധത്തിൽ ശ്രമിച്ചാലും അവിടെ

[Mr. P. S. Mahomed.]

ശുചീകരണം നടത്താൻ സാധിക്കുകയില്ല. ആ സ്ഥലങ്ങളെല്ലാം പോയി പരിശോധിച്ചു അവർക്കു ചെറിയ ചെറിയ തെരുവുകളായി ഭവനങ്ങൾ കെട്ടി കൊടുത്താൽ ശുചീകരണത്തിന് സൗകര്യമായിരിക്കും അവിടെ താമസിക്കുന്ന ആളുകൾക്കു സുഖമായി താമസിക്കുന്നതിന് സാധിക്കുകയും ചെയ്യും. എന്റെ സ്റ്റേറ്റ്മെന്റ് മി: കെ. എം. താമസ് തിരുവനന്തപുരം മുനിസിപ്പാലിറ്റിയല്ലാതെ മറ്റേതെങ്കിലും മുനിസിപ്പാലിറ്റി ടൗൺഷിപ്പിനോടു സ്ക്രീമിനെ അനുകൂലിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടോ എന്നൊരു ചോദ്യം ചോദിക്കുകയുണ്ടായി. എന്നാൽ തിരുവനന്തപുരം മുനിസിപ്പാലിറ്റി എന്നു മാത്രമല്ല മറ്റു മുനിസിപ്പാലിറ്റികളും, മുനിസിപ്പാലിറ്റിയോടു സംബന്ധപ്പെട്ട ആളുകളും ഇതാവശ്യമാണെന്നുള്ള അഭിപ്രായക്കാരാണ് എന്നു അറിയിക്കുന്നതിനു വേണ്ടിയാണ് ഞാൻ ഇത്രയും ഇവിടെ പ്രതിപാദിച്ചത്.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon*): ആലപ്പുഴ മുനിസിപ്പാലിറ്റിയിൽ നിന്നും, ഇതാവശ്യമാണെന്നു അപേക്ഷിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടോ?

MR. P. S. MAHOMED (*Nominated*): അപേക്ഷിക്കേണ്ട ആവശ്യം ഇതിനു മുമ്പുണ്ടായില്ല. ഇപ്പോൾ ഈ ബിൽ ഈ കൗൺസിൽ അംഗീകരിച്ചിട്ടില്ലായിരുന്നു എന്നു വരുത്തി ആലപ്പുഴ മുനിസിപ്പാലിറ്റി നിവാസികളുടെ ആരോഗ്യത്തിനും ടൗണിന്റെ ശുചീകരണത്തിനും ശ്രദ്ധ പതിപ്പിച്ചു പ്രവർത്തിക്കുന്ന ആളുകൾ മുന്നോട്ടു വന്നു ഇതിലേക്കു തുടങ്ങുമായിരുന്നു എന്നാണ് എന്റെ വിശ്വാസം.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Sir, I also welcome the Bill. It is a well-known fact that some of our towns, at any rate such of our towns as deserve the name of towns, are subject to all manner of diseases. There may also be certain towns in the State which are called or misnamed towns to which what I now say does not apply. For instance, I will refer to Neyyattinkara or Kuzhithurai or Neduvangad. They are not towns in the accepted sense of the term; but some of these are towns for the purposes of the Municipal Regulation. I refer only to real towns. When we consider our town of Trivandrum, the capital, whoever knows any thing about it, whoever has cared to stay in the town for a day, probably even for a few hours, will be struck with the way in which the health of the town is neglected. I do not say who is responsible for it; but we know for a fact that a large part of the town is really unfit for human occupation, even though the whole town is thickly populated.

MR. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Trivandrum cum Neduvangad*): Do you exempt the Municipal Council?

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): I do not say whom to exempt and whom not to exempt. Whoever is responsible for the health of the town cannot escape blame. If it is the Municipal Council, it cannot escape, and if it is the Government, Government cannot escape blame. I only want this House to realise that many parts of the town are really unfit for human occupation, even though the whole of the town is thickly populated—I refer to places like Pazhavangadi, Fort, Manakad, Chalai and some other parts of the town. I do not say that the want of a town-planning scheme is alone responsible for it. But I may assert without fear of contradiction that if a well-considered scheme of town-planning is not introduced without any delay what-so-ever, the other parts of the town will also soon get into the same condition as we find some of these parts in. I may say that even Puthenchandai is getting unfit for occupation. As Mr. Kayalam Paramesvaran Pillai pointed out our town has grown of its own accord without anybody caring to see how it grows. We find very narrow lanes with costly buildings on either side with hardly room for a carriage to move along. We find at the same time the drain on one side which is seldom clean. As Mr. Kayalam Paramesvaran Pillai pointed out, I need not dilate much upon this matter, but I want to emphasise one fact. If this Bill becomes law, is it to remain a dead-letter? That is the question that I want to raise. Or, is it seriously meant to be put into operation. I can give many instances of Bills which have taken up a good deal of the time of this House and have been passed into law; and they are left there as a dead-letter. If that is going to be the fate of this Bill also there is no use troubling ourselves with it. We hear Mr. Paramesvaran Pillai telling us that the Trivandrum Municipality has recommended the passing of a law like this. That is because there is very great necessity for it. Now the Bill is before us and it will soon be passed into law. The mover has made a very important alteration in his Bill from the provisions of the corresponding Madras Act. I ask, why not make it obligatory on every Municipality to prepare and adopt a town-planning scheme. The course now suggested by the mover would lead to this result. What we find Trivandrum to be to-day we shall find other Municipalities also to be, some time hence. Why should we wait for this? We hear that the inhabitants of certain Municipalities do not want those Municipalities. For instance, I hear of Haripad where the people of the place do not want to be considered as a Municipality. Some such places are not fit to be called municipalities. Why should we call a particular area an urban area, or a municipality?

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon*): But who should judge as to whether a particular area is to be called municipal area or not.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): I say, whoever is responsible for it should look into the matter and see that only such places as stand in need of being made Municipalities are made so.

RAO BAHADUR K. A. KRISHNA AIYANGAR (*Nominated, Deputy President*): May I ask one question; is it Mr. Thanu Pillai's contention that the people in a particular area are never to be taken as citizens of a Municipality merely because they say they do not want it?

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): I was speaking of areas which do not stand in need of being styled Municipalities, which do not deserve to be considered Municipalities. If a place wants to be a Municipality it should prepare a town-planning scheme; otherwise a time will come when that Municipality will get congested, unhealthily congested.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara cum Kartikapalli*): What should be the penalty if a Municipality does not carry out the town-planning scheme?

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): If a law is laid down the several bodies affected by it must obey it.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara cum Kartikapalli*): I want to know what the suggestion of the member will be with regard to the penalty that is to be imposed?

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Municipalities are constituted under a law, and that law the Municipalities are bound to obey. If any body does not obey the law it will go out giving place to those who obey the law.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara cum Kartikapalli*): If the Municipality is abolished; that is what I wish to know?

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): That is what I want to make mention of now.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara cum Kartikapalli*): Yes. Municipal Council may think that it will not be good for the inhabitants of the town to spend so much money on a town-planning scheme.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): It will be open for the legislature to pass a law that, for a place to become a Municipality, it must conform to certain rules. I do not think that if a salutary law is laid out, any of our Municipalities would disobey it; and I throw out this suggestion for the consideration of the Select Committee. If after due consideration the Select Committee comes to the conclusion that this provision will be conducive to the welfare of the Municipalities, they may accept it. Now, for the time being my view is that it must be made obligatory. We know, Sir, many instances of Bills having been passed but not effectively brought into force. The Village Panchayat Regulation was passed six or seven years ago. This

Bill will pass into law. It will also, be in the Statute Book like many other Bills that have already been passed into law through this House; and it will remain a dead-letter. And many of our towns may not view the town-planning scheme as a very urgent measure. I would suggest in all earnestness that this be made an obligatory function of every Municipality. The Madras Act, I think, provides further that in case where the Government exempt them from preparing the scheme, they can do without it. Some such provision at least may be put in in our Bill. The normal thing will be for the Municipalities to prepare town-planning schemes. They may ask for exemption on sufficient grounds, and Government may allow it.

RAO BAHADUR K. A. KRISHNA AIYANGAR (*Nominated, Deputy President*): Will my friend concede that the citizens of the Municipalities will have to be heavily taxed before a town-planning scheme is put into effect; or does he approve of the general tax-payers in the land being taxed extra for the benefit of a few people in the urban areas?

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Sir, that is a question that has come up for consideration here many a time. With regard to the Trivandrum Municipality I have always been maintaining that the general resources of the State can very well be made use of for the improvement of the capital. Now, how far the general tax-payer could pay for the improvement of other Municipalities, is also an important question. Take for instance the Municipality of Quilon. That exists not merely for the people inhabiting Quilon but also for the district. So, it stands to reason that the district also should contribute.

RAO BAHADUR K. A. KRISHNA AIYANGAR (*Nominated, Deputy President*): Does the member maintain that Government alone should contribute towards the functioning of these institutions?

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Government should contribute. Otherwise our Municipalities cannot continue as such. I do not think there need be any doubt on that matter. It has to contribute largely. The Trivandrum Municipality is not able to make both ends meet, even though its activities are very restricted. What the Trivandrum Municipality does is, some scavenging work and some lighting. Beyond that I do not think anything is done. All the same the Municipal dues collected are heavy so far as the people are concerned.

In these days when locomotion is made easy we may extend the towns to suburban areas. Trivandrum, for instance, is not a commercial or industrial centre. Here we have got a number of vakils and Government Officers. Why should all these people live together in such a small area? Why not remove some of our courts five miles away to Vattiurkavu, and our Colleges also to some other place? This is possible in the case of a town like Trivandrum. It is a mistake to allow

[Mr. A. Thanu Pillai.]

ourselves to get into this condition of ill-health and disease. The town has already become congested, and so also Alleppey, Nagercoil and Kottayam. All these towns have to be relieved of their congestion.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara cum Kartikapalli*): Is the member aware that if the Government are to contribute much larger sums to the towns, by that course, they will deprive the poor villagers of the little benefits that they derive now?

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): I do not understand why the villager should be deprived of the benefit that he now gets.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara cum Kartikapalli*): If larger sums were given for towns only the remaining will be available for the villagers.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): It does not mean that enough will not be left for the villages.

RAO BAHADUR K. A. KRISHNA AIYANGAR (*Nominated, Deputy President*): May I ask Mr. Thanu Pillai whether in the Village Panchayat Regulation it is not expressly provided that Government should contribute three-fourths for the first five years and one-half for the next?

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Yes, I know. Sir, there seems to be a misconception. My friend seems to think that Trivandrum is for the people of Trivandrum alone. It is not so. If Mr. Damodaran Asan's children come here for College course they have to be in Trivandrum.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara cum Kartikapalli*): Does the member know that all those people who come here pay the Municipality for the convenience they enjoy?

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): I do not know.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara cum Kartikapalli*): Then, how is it that the Municipality is now getting on?

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): It is getting on badly enough. It is getting on mainly because the inhabitants of the Municipality contribute. If we can introduce measures for the improvement of the town, we may be able to get a good return. For instance, if we can open out some of the less known parts of Trivandrum where we may now get land not more than Rs. 25 per cent, if we construct good roads and lay out good streets, I think the price there would rise to Rs. 150 or even Rs. 250 for a cent. All that means money. Even without Government support a good deal may be done. A well-conducted Municipality may be able to do a good deal without Government support. But a good deal of Government help is necessary under existing conditions. But let us save ourselves from this misconception, that Government money spent on towns is a waste. I am really surprised that some

of my friends take that view. After all, the villagers are not going to suffer if more money is spent for the Trivandrum town.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara cum Kartikapalli*): Does the member know that people who come from other parts will be able to compare the amenities of towns and villages and come to right conclusions?

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Some people will be able to do that; but some others will never be able to do it.

MR. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Trivandrum cum Neduvangad*): What is the contribution, to the Municipal funds, from the floating population? You have got a large floating population. What is their contribution?

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Their contribution, so far as I can see, is nothing.

RAO BAHADUR K. A. KRISHNA AIYANGAR (*Nominated, Deputy President*): Really! What about the tolls that you collect?

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Yes. I forgot that. That is in regard to people who come in motor cars. People who come in trains do not pay tolls. Only the richer men who go in motor cars give something. After all what is it! It is only four annas.

MR. S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): Six annas.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Is it six annas?

MR. M. MAHOMED MUSTAPHA (*Commerce and Industry, South*): One rupee for buses.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): But there are not many buses.

MR. M. MAHOMED MUSTAPHA (*Commerce and Industry, South*): The Trivandrum Municipal toll-gate brings about Rs. 6,000.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Rs. 6,000 or even Rs. 10,000 is not much for the Trivandrum Municipality.

RAO BAHADUR K. A. KRISHNA AIYANGAR (*Nominated, Deputy President*): But the amount has its importance even at present.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): It has. It is not a deliberate omission that I made.

Sir, I do not wish to take more of the time of the House. I welcome this Bill in all earnestness. I would urge upon Government that the Bill, when it is passed into law be put into effect, to begin with in the Trivandrum town, and then be extended to Nagercoil Alleppey and other important towns.

RAO BAHADUR K. A. KRISHNA AIYANGAR (*Nominated, Deputy President*): Sir, I beg to support the principle of the Bill. There is no doubt that there is necessity for a statute laying down the lines on which cities should grow up in future laying down the line on

[Mr. Rao Bahadur K. A. Krishna Aiyangar.]

which the mistakes committed in the past may be rectified hereafter. In that spirit I welcome the proposed measure. But every measure that is intended to improve the material well-being of the people necessarily implies heavy expenditure of money. I propose to concentrate my remarks on the financial aspect of the question alone for the present. I am not one of those who hold a parochial view, that the Trivandrum town is enjoying certain amenities of life and that therefore Trivandrum alone should contribute to the upkeep of electric lights, water-supply and first class roads. I do not hold such a view at all. My friend is claiming a certain amount of importance for the town of Trivandrum because it happens to be the political centre of the State where people from all parts of Travancore have to resort to frequently. It is perfectly true.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): I do not want to take a restricted view like that. I know, for instance, Alleppey is the commercial capital of the State.

RAO BAHADUR K. A. KRISHNA AIYANGAR (*Nominated, Deputy President*): There is Alleppey. That is the commercial capital of the State. Its well-being is as much the concern of the inhabitants of Alleppey as of the whole Travancoreans whose commodities pass through the Alleppey Port and who have to get the bulk of their requirements through the Alleppey Port.

So, there is nothing wrong in the Government contributing a certain portion of the general revenues towards the expenditure within a limited area, ostensibly for the benefit of the people inhabiting that area, but really for the benefit of a very larger class of the population. But my point is that there must be some well-understood rule as to the proportion of such contribution out of the general revenues. I remember, Sir, some years ago, a committee of the Madras Council was constituted—I believe its recommendation was accepted—and its unanimous recommendation was that, if any particular local self-governing institution was prepared to raise half of the funds required for a particular purpose, the other half should be contributed from the general revenues of Government. I am not suggesting, Sir, that that rule of three should be adopted in Travancore also. My submission is that we should know beforehand, particularly when we are about to enter upon such big schemes as town-planning, we should have some idea as to the proportion that the people of the locality should contribute and the proportion that the Government should contribute out of the general revenues of the State.

And then, Sir, in view of the financial difficulty that is now confronting us, is my friend Mr. Thanu Pillai justified in suggesting that the benefits of this measure must be forced upon every local self-governing institution in the State? In the present condition of our finances, and in the possibility of no relief from the situation in the immediate future, is it not safer to make it optional, with particular areas, to choose

whether they would go in for this costly white-elephant scheme or suffer the difficulties that they may be suffering now for a few years more? Solely in view of the financial aspect of the question, I am not for the Government or for this Council making it *obligatory* on all self-governing institutions to adopt the scheme. There are, what you may call, essentials; there are what you may call non-essentials or luxuries. Sir, subject to correction, I regard this scheme of town-planning as a luxury which no doubt may be gone in for if we have got our purse sufficiently well-filled to meet the requirements of the situation. If the people in particular localities come forward and say "Here is a scheme for water supply in our town; the estimated expenditure is one lakh of rupees; please give us 50,000." That is a perfectly reasonable proposition; and under such circumstances the Government should willingly contribute Rs. 50,000 from the general revenues of the State. That the attitude of the Government in the matter of helping self-governing institutions is very generous could be seen from the fact that in the Village Panchayat Regulation there is a statutory provision that, for the first five years, three-fourths of the expenditure of the village institutions should be borne by the Government and that thereafter the expenditure should be divided equally by these local institutions and the Central Government. Sir, why is it that the proportion of contribution from the Central Government has thus been fixed in the statute itself? That is the point that I now want the House to consider. I was myself a party to that provision in the Village Panchayat Regulation. We insisted on such a provision because of the bitter experience we had from the working of the Municipal Regulation. Sir, when the Municipalities were first started, practically the entire expenditure was borne by the Government. Later on, the contribution from Government varied with the intensity of pressure which particular local bodies were able to bring to bear upon the Government. And now, the grants from Government have been abolished practically in regard to all the Municipalities in the State. It is therefore, Sir, that I am submitting that, in the case of such a big scheme as town-planning, pregnant with possibilities of great usefulness, the financial aspect should receive the earnest attention of the Select Committee before this Bill comes up again for second reading. No doubt the less costly method, of starting new cities, will be the suburban extension, the opening of first class roads, the establishment of garden cities as Mr. Thanu Pillai suggested. Trivandrum is practically a garden city even now. With the exception of a few isolated spots in the Fort and near Chalai, Trivandrum is really a garden city. In fact, the whole of Travancore, with the exception of Nagercoil and Shencotta, and a few trade centres like Alleppey, is full of garden cities. Therefore, Sir, let us try to maintain that position instead of spending huge amounts on big town-planning schemes, as has been done in British India where towns have to be planned for bringing together lakhs of people in comparatively small areas. Sir, that way lies danger. I am also not in favour of demolishing whole

[Rao Bhadur K. A. Krishna Aiyangar]

lines of shops just to make the roads a few yards broader in order that a couple of cars may run abreast. In the case of the Puthenangadi in Allèppey, a similar suggestion was made, and it was proposed that one side of the shops may be acquired and dismantled so that the whole of it might form a fine broad road with the canal in the centre. Government were good enough to consider the proposal, but it had to be dropped since the compensation for the shops to be demolished amounted to a very big figure. When difficulties like that have been experienced by us in town-planning, let us have due regard to the financial aspect of the question. An attempt may be made in this direction only to the extent that local and central finances permit. Having due regard to this aspect of the question, I have no objection to Trivandrum being given the chance of starting it in the first instance. I am only suggesting that this financial aspect of the question should be very seriously considered, and, if considered desirable, the contribution that the Government shall make, out of the general revenues, and the contribution that the local bodies may have to make, may be definitely laid down in the statute itself. These aspects of the question, I feel confident will receive the very careful attention of the Select Committee; and if the question of the contribution is definitely settled, I do not find any objection to our adopting the town-planning scheme by which we can convert our country into several beautiful towns with parks and plenty of play-grounds which are now a real want. I have no doubt the measure will prove a real blessing to the people if properly financed and worked in a spirit of enthusiasm.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon*): Sir, I rise to support the principle of Bill. In doing so, I want to contradict certain opinions that have been expressed on this side of the House. It has been stated, Sir, that town-planning is only a luxury and perhaps an ideal to be kept in view, and that therefore it should not be made obligatory on the part of unwilling centres to adopt the town-planning scheme. I entirely differ from that view point, Sir; because, I do feel that the healthy conditions necessary for a town cannot be obtained unless town-planning schemes are put into operation in time. I cannot for a moment admit that it can be left to the sweet will and pleasure of a body of people who do not know what is sanitary living, what are the benefits of town-planning, the benefits that would accrue to them if the town-planning scheme is adopted.

RAO BHADUR K. A. KRISHNA AIYANGAR (*Nominated, Deputy President*): Is it my friend's suggestion that the municipalities in out-lying areas.....

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon*): I am not speaking particularly with reference to the people living in municipal areas; I am talking of the people in general in all parts of our country. We are not alive to a sense of sanitary living as we ought to be. That fact cannot

be denied. Any amount of patriotism, any amount of support that may be given to democratic institutions, cannot obviate the fact that we are not alive to a sense of cleanliness, to a sense of sanitary conditions as we ought to be. (*Rao Bahadur K. A. Krishna Aiyangar: Hear, hear.*) We hear complaints from many parts of the country that they do not want municipalities. I know, in Quilon, there is a section among the people, certain communities, who do not want scavenging. They object to it. They do not mind paying the fees; but they have serious objection to scavenging.

RAO BAHADUR K. A. KRISHNA AIYANGAR (*Nominated, Deputy President*): Is my friend aware of the recent pronouncement by a town-planning expert in China that scavenging was objectionable as it was responsible for the conversion of very fertile and productive soil into very unproductive soil?

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon*): Whatever may be the opinion of that expert, I cannot, with equanimity, think of such a state of affairs in a crowded town or city. However beneficial that may be, in other respects, whatever may be the opinion of experts, I cannot with equanimity think of the condition of a town without scavenging. My view may not be the view of an expert; but it is a human view.

Sir, the question of finance is a very important question. That cannot be denied. That has to be conceded. I am prepared to concede that the town-planning scheme will involve a good deal of expenditure. Government have not—I do not know the reasons taken us into their confidence and given us an idea of the expenditure involved. They have not given us even an approximate idea of it, even in the case of Trivandrum. If what I think is right, it is sure to involve heavy expenditure, so that, considering the present financial stringency, it is not likely that even in the town of Trivandrum any town-planning scheme would be introduced in the near future. After all, Government may not seriously think of introducing any town-planning scheme here in the near future. In that case, the mere appointment of a town-planning expert on a huge salary, merely to pander to the tastes of a few individuals, is not going to serve any purpose. If really nothing is to come out of this measure, there is no purpose in merely adding it on to the Statue Book and keeping it as an ornament there. In spite of the fact that we agree with the principle of the Bill, and in spite of the fact that we want the scheme to be introduced as early as possible in every town, if Government are going to leave the matter there after merely appointing a town-planning expert, it is not a matter which we can appreciate; and the Government cannot count upon our support.

Sir, some of my friends seem to be under the impression that all the towns in the country belong to the people living in the particular localities, and that all the money spent for the improvement of towns is intended to pander to the tastes of the people who live in towns. I

[Mr. K. Kunjukrishna Pillai.]

protest against that attitude on the part of anybody. Sir, this is a matter which is beyond small constituencies or such small units. I do not think it is possible for any Government, or for that matter any corporate association, to deal with any policy intended for the common good of the people in such a parochial and narrow spirit. If there are bodies or people who think like that, it is the duty of the members of this House to dispel them of such illusions and to train them to think that it is *their* duty and a paramount necessity for *them* to make sacrifices for the general benefit of the country as a whole. "All the money that is being spent in the improvement of towns is intended for the benefit of the people who live there: therefore, do not spend any money for the improvement of towns: bring everything to *my* constituency, to *my* village, the corner of the country where *I* live; improve the roads in *my* native place." Sir, with all the vehemence I can command, I protest against such an attitude being taken by people. Such an attitude is ruinous to the whole corporate life in the State. It is ruinous to the political future of the country. The people of the country should have a wide vision. We should rise above such narrow outlook. If we admit for a moment that we cannot do without towns, that we cannot for ever live in these separate local units without towns being developed, then I think it is the duty of every one of us, whether we happen to live in towns or not, to see that the towns in the country are developed and are kept in a neat and sanitary condition, so long as we realise that, under the present-day civilisation, there is no possibility of our escaping from towns growing in importance and in number. Whatever be the means adopted, the towns have to be kept in a neat and sanitary condition. It is to the benefit not only of the people who live in towns but also for the benefit of the country as a whole. I think that is the attitude that should be taken by the people.

Sir, this scheme is not going to benefit the people materially if we leave it merely to the Government and to their Statute Book. I am sorry to say that there are in our country little bodies who have not yet begun to understand the implications of such beneficial schemes. They seem to lack long vision on these matters. If people are not capable of doing that, it is the duty of the Government to teach them and to make them understand things. When municipalities were first introduced in Travancore, there was a hue and cry against the reform. There are still uncivilised parts of the country where the people cry down the Municipalities because they have to pay a small tax. People send up memorials for the abolition of the municipalities. In this country, unfortunately, we have memorials for anything and everything. These memorials have to be discouraged. We have to work against this attitude of the people even at the cost of popularity. We have to tell them the truth some time or other; the earlier the better. I think this is a very pernicious, poisonous kind of influence. I think it is highly necessary... ..

MR. K. P. KOCHUKORA TARAKAN (*Kunnathnad*): പ്രാദേശികാവശ്യങ്ങളെ ഉപേക്ഷിച്ചുപട്ടണത്തിലെ ആവശ്യങ്ങൾ നടക്കണമെന്നാണോ മെമ്പറുടെ അഭിപ്രായം?

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon*): എന്നൊന്നും ഞാൻ പറഞ്ഞില്ല. ഞാൻ പറഞ്ഞതു മനസ്സിലാക്കിയിരുന്നാൽ അങ്ങിനെ ധരിക്കാനും ഇടയില്ല.

MR. K. P. KOCHUKORA TARAKAN (*Kunnathnad*): എനിക്കു മനസ്സിലായതു, പട്ടണത്തിലേക്കു വരും ചിലവാക്കുന്നതിൽ മറ്റുള്ളവർ അസൂയപ്പെടാൻ പാടില്ല; ഈ അസൂയ ഉൾനാട്ടിലുള്ളവർക്കുണ്ടെന്നു തോന്നുന്നുണ്ട്. അതു ശരിയായ ഒന്നല്ല എന്നാണ്.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon*): ഞാൻ പറഞ്ഞതിന്റെ ചുരുക്കമിതാണ്. പ്രാദേശികാവശ്യങ്ങൾ എന്നു പറയുന്നത് മുഴുവൻ നീന്തുകഴിഞ്ഞിട്ടേ പൊതുവായ ആവശ്യങ്ങൾക്കായി ഒരു കാശുപോലും ചിലവാക്കാൻ പാടൊള്ളൂ എന്നു പറയുന്നതു അബദ്ധമാണ്. പ്രാദേശികാവശ്യങ്ങൾ ഉണ്ടായിരിക്കും; അവയെ വേണ്ടപോലെ സംരക്ഷിക്കേണ്ട കടമ ഗവണ്മെന്റിനുണ്ട്; എന്നാൽ അതോടുകൂടി രാജ്യത്തിന്റെ പൊതുവായ കാര്യങ്ങൾ കൂടി നോക്കേണ്ടതത്യാവശ്യമാണ്.

MR. K. P. KOCHUKORA TARAKAN (*Kunnathnad*): പ്രാദേശികാവശ്യങ്ങൾക്കു ചിലവിടുന്ന സംഖ്യയ്ക്കനുസരിച്ചു പട്ടണങ്ങളുടെ ആവശ്യത്തിന്നു ചിലവിടണമെന്നു പറയുന്നതിൽ ഭോഷമുണ്ടോ?

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon*): ഞാൻ പ്രാദേശികാവശ്യങ്ങളുടേയും ടൗൺ ആവശ്യങ്ങളുടേയും വകാലത്തു പിടിച്ചു സംസാരിക്കുകയായില്ല. പ്രാദേശികാവശ്യങ്ങൾക്കായി ചിലവു ചെയ്യുന്ന രുക എന്തുതന്നെയായിരുന്നാലും പട്ടണത്തിലെ ആവശ്യങ്ങൾ ഒഴിച്ചുകൂടാൻ നിവർത്തിയില്ലാത്തതാണെന്നു കണ്ടാൽ അവയെ ഗവണ്മെൻറു പ്രവർത്തിപ്പലതിയിൽ കൊണ്ടു വരുന്നതിന്നു ആവശ്യപ്പെടണമെന്നു മറ്റൊല്ലാവർക്കും തോന്നാവുന്ന അഭിപ്രായം പുറപ്പെടുവിക്കുകയാണ് ഞാൻ ചെയ്യുന്നതു്. പ്രാദേശികാവശ്യങ്ങളെ തീരെ ഉപേക്ഷിക്കണമെന്നൊന്നും തന്നെ ഞാൻ പറഞ്ഞ അഭിപ്രായങ്ങളിൽ നിന്നും വരുന്നില്ല.

[Mr. K. Kunjukrishna Pillai.]

One word more, Sir, and I finish. This measure is very necessary; and, as Mr. Thanu Pillai has suggested, it must be put into operation as early as possible. In the Statement of Objects and Reasons it has been stated that, if the operation of this measure is delayed, it is very likely that the cost would be much more, that it would become increasingly difficult to oust vested interests or to dislocate buildings, and that, even though the Government may be prepared to pay compensation, in certain cases, in certain circumstances, religious and other objections may be raised against the acquisition of particular sites and buildings for purposes of the town-planning scheme. Therefore, the good that will be coming out of this Bill is centred round the rapidity with which the Government take action on it. If the Government put it as a mere ornament on the Statute Book, it would be of little use to the people. It will be no good if they simply make a show that they also have a town-planning scheme and a town-planning expert. I support the principle of this Bill earnestly believing that prompt and effective measures would be brought into operation as early as possible.

MR. K. I. KOCHIPPAN MAPPILA (*Nominated*): സർ, ടൗണിംഗ് കൗൺസിലർമാർ വളരെ അധികം പ്രാധാന്യം ഗവണ്മെന്റു നൽകുന്നുണ്ടെങ്കിലും ഗ്രാമങ്ങളേയും ഗ്രാമീണന്മാരേയും സംബന്ധിച്ചുടത്തോളമുള്ള കൗൺസിലർമാർ വളരെ അപ്രധാനമായിട്ടേ ഗവണ്മെന്റു വിചാരിക്കുന്നുള്ളൂ എന്നുള്ള ഒരു പരാതിയും മുറവിളിയും തിരുവിതാംകൂറിൽ വളരെ നാളായി ഉള്ളതാണ്. അതിൽ വളരെ അത്ഭുതമുണ്ടെന്നു എന്നെപ്പോലെ അനേക ലക്ഷ്യമാളുകൾ വിശ്വസിക്കുന്നുണ്ട് എന്നാണ് ഞാൻ വിചാരിക്കുന്നത്. അതിനാൽ ഗ്രാമങ്ങളെ സംബന്ധിച്ചു പരിഷ്കരിക്കുന്നതിനുള്ള വ്യാപ്തികൂടി ഈ ബില്ലിൽ ഉണ്ടായിരിക്കണമെന്നുള്ള അഭിപ്രായത്തോടുകൂടി ഇതു സംബന്ധിച്ചു മ. : ഈ. വി. കൗൺസിലർമാർ പറഞ്ഞുപിടിച്ച അഭിപ്രായത്തോടു ഞാൻ പൂർണ്ണമായി യോജിച്ചു കൊള്ളുന്നു.

MR. C. N. TUPPAN NAMPUTIRIPAD (*Jenmies*): സർ, ലാമെമ്പർ ഇവിടെ അവതരിപ്പിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള നഗര രൂപീകരണ ബില്ലിനെപ്പറ്റി ഒന്നുതന്നെ സംസാരിക്കേണ്ട എന്നു ഞാൻ വിചാരിച്ചിരുന്ന അവസരത്തിലാണ് ഈ ബില്ലിന്റെ ഒരു മലയാള തർജ്ജിമ എനിക്ക് കിട്ടിയത്. അതിന്റെ ഉദ്ദേശ കാരണവിവരം വായിച്ചു നോക്കിയപ്പോൾ എനിക്കൊരഭിപ്രായം തോന്നി. ഇവിടെയുള്ള ടൗണുകളിൽ ഞാൻ സഞ്ചരിക്കുന്ന പല അവസരങ്ങളിലും അവയെ ഒന്നു പരിഷ്കരിക്കേണ്ടതാണെന്നു എനിക്ക് തോന്നുകയും ആ അഭിപ്രായം എന്റെ കൂടെ ഉണ്ടായിരുന്ന സ്റ്റേഫിതന്മാരോടു പറയുകയും ചെയ്തിട്ടുണ്ട്. ഞാൻ അങ്ങിനെ

വിചാരിച്ചുകൊണ്ടിരുന്ന അവസരത്തിലാണ് ഈ ബിൽ ഇവിടെ അവിതരിപ്പിച്ചത്. ബില്ലിലെ മൂലതത്വം ഇന്നതാണെന്നു പൂർണ്ണമായി മനസ്സിലാക്കാൻ എനിക്കു സാധിച്ചിട്ടില്ലെങ്കിലും ടൗണുകളെ പരിഷ്കരിക്കേണ്ട ആവശ്യമുണ്ടെന്നുള്ള ഭാഗം ഞാൻ മനസ്സിലാക്കി. ഈ തിരുവനന്തപുരം ടൗണിനെ നോക്കുകയാണെങ്കിൽ രാത്രിയിൽ സഞ്ചരിക്കുന്നവർ വിളക്കു കാലിൽ ചെന്നു മുട്ടുക എന്നുള്ളതുണ്ടാവുകയില്ല. കുറെ കഷ്ടപ്പാടു ഈ ടൗണിനു കുറഞ്ഞിട്ടുണ്ട്. മറ്റുള്ള സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ ടൗണിന്റെ ലക്ഷണമായി കാണുന്നതു വിളക്കു കാൽ മാത്രമാണ്. മുനിസിപ്പാലിറ്റി എന്നു പേരുണ്ടെങ്കിലും ടൗണിന്റെ പല ഭാഗങ്ങളിലും മുനിസിപ്പാലിറ്റിയുടെ ദൃഷ്ടി എത്താത്ത സ്ഥലങ്ങൾ ധാരാളമുണ്ട്. മുനിസിപ്പാലിറ്റി നികുതി കൊടുക്ക എന്നുള്ളതല്ലാതെ അതിൽ നിന്നും യാതൊരു സൗകര്യവും ലഭിക്കാത്ത സ്ഥലങ്ങൾ കോട്ടയം ടൗണിൽതന്നെ ധാരാളമുണ്ട്. അങ്ങിനെയുള്ള ടൗണുകളേയും പരിഷ്കരിച്ചു ജനങ്ങൾക്കു ഇന്നത്തെക്കാൾ കൂടുതൽ സൗകര്യപ്രദമായ നിലയിൽ ആക്കിത്തീർക്കുന്നതിനു ഇതിലെ വകുപ്പുകൾ പര്യാപ്തമായിത്തീരുമെന്നു ഞാൻ വിചാരിക്കുന്നു. അതിനാൽ ഞാൻ ഈ ബില്ലിന്റെ തത്വത്തോടു യോജിക്കുന്നു.

MR. O. M. THOMAS (Kottayam): I think I must strike a note of qualified dissent to the chorus of approval of the Bill, to which we have listened. It is one thing to say that towns have an abiding place in national life, and it is altogether a different thing to say that the national purse must be placed at the disposal of these towns. I for one cannot share in the metropolitan enthusiasm of my esteemed friend who sits on my left, for the simple reason that I am somewhat of a provincial nature and am a villager. And, despite the vehemence of the honourable member who represents Quilon, I must plead guilty to the possession of a very parochial frame of mind.

Sir, speaking from experience, when I think of the proposal to hand over our towns to the tender mercies of the town-planning expert, I must say, with all earnestness I can command, that I am very nervous of our future. Years ago, when the Government of Travancore constituted a separate department for the organisation and development of our industries, the patriotic section of the people were led to believe that a new heaven and a new earth would be made out of this land of charity. Years further back, when the Department of Agriculture was organised and when Dr. Kunjen Pillai was placed at the head of that Department, with all the glamour of his foreign degrees and experience, although I was young, I thought that better times had dawned for agriculture in the land. Years ago, when the Department for Co-operative Credit Societies was organised and placed in the charge, not

[Mr. O. M. Thomas.]

of the present Head of the Department, but of his illustrious predecessor, whoever he might be (*Laughter*); we were under the impression that a glorious time awaited us and that.....

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon*): Is it the opinion of the member that all predecessors are illustrious?

MR. O. M. THOMAS (*Kottayam*): Certainly not; It is only with regard to this Department that I said that; and the question does not arise.

Sir, with this experience at the back of my mind I find it extremely difficult to hand over our towns to an expert like any one in the category of the experts I have been mentioning. The immediate effect of the Bill when it is passed into law would be that a Department would be created under the advice of a town-planning expert.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): May I know from my friend whether he has any misgivings about the town-planning expert, that he may also belong to the type of experts that he has been describing; and, if so, whether he has anything to say against the proposed measure if we can get.....

MR. O. M. THOMAS (*Kottayam*): I have not finished my argument. Let me finish, and then my friend may put me questions. If my friend would be patient enough he will have my argument in support of my position.

I do not object to the regime of an expert, although there is a tendency in modern times to be somewhat sceptical of the beneficial effects of expert administration. My point is this. Every progressive Government is really controlled not by experts but by politicians. And, though in the view of Aristotle, Government and administration are the most difficult of all arts, those difficult arts have to be guided and controlled not by experts but by politicians.

Sir, I am not opposed to the guidance by experts. But I cited experience to show that much of the so-called guidance by experts has not been to our benefit at all in the past. For that, I blame the Government more than the experts. I suppose, if we are to have a town-planning expert, and it is clearly seen that experts are not very cheap—at least fifteen hundred rupees will have to be paid for a tolerably well-qualified town-planning expert. Now, suppose he draws up an elaborate plan which will make Trivandrum a perfectly beautiful garden city which will meet with the entire satisfaction and approval of the representative of Trivandrum who sits in this Council, and suppose Government turns down that proposal for want of funds that often happens in the case of the Government of Travancore—what is the return that we get out of this enormous outlay on the expert, not to speak of the Department Schemes, however beneficial, are likely to be shelved indefinitely. That is what is to be seen of the Government of Travancore; and until there are some material alterations in the frame of mind which has characterised the Government of

Travancore all along, I think it is necessary to be very cautious of new schemes of this kind which the Honourable the Deputy President said must necessarily require a big financial outlay. In these circumstances, Sir, I am not very enthusiastic of the principle of the Bill. Towns have got to be improved, there is no doubt about that. But are towns likely to be improved under the Town-planning Bill? Money expended is money wasted—that has been the result in the past and there is no reason to predict a different future, future different from the past that we have had already. Sir, the parochial frame of mind has been objected to; and I think I must endorse the remarks, the very weighty remarks, made by the Deputy President, namely, that though not now, at least at a very near future, some equitable proportion must be fixed between the expenses of local and central amenities. Trivandrum is certainly having the lion's share of the general revenues of the State. In order to gratify my esteemed friend who represents Quilon, I might say that I do not plead for the improvement of villages to the total exclusion of the improvement of towns. What I say is that town-planning and rural reconstruction must be so equitably spread over a number of years, so spread that it will be possible for the Government and for the rural and municipal public to realise that nobody's claims have been overlooked or neglected. Sir, if within a period of six years, more money has been devoted for municipal developments, there must be a corresponding period of six years within which a like share will have to be devoted to rural reconstruction. However beneficial may be the schemes which the best town-planning expert might devise, as far as the human eye could see at present, the future of Travancore is bound up with the future of the tillers of the soil. You might have ten Directors for the Department of Industries. Still, there is not much industrial awakening likely to arise in the near future or for another hundred years; and I might say that the figure that I cited is from the opinion of one of the Judges who adorned the High Court of Travancore that for yet another hundred years Travancore must remain a rural State, must be an agricultural State.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): May I know the name of that Judge?

MR. O. M. THOMAS (*Kottayam*): Personalities will be avoided as far as possible.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon*): May I know whether it was recorded in any of the judgments?

MR. O. M. THOMAS (*Kottayam*): Certainly not. It was expressed in a public speech. It is not my duty to name the individual, for the Law Member did not mention the name of the town-planning expert.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): I merely wanted to see how far that opinion is valuable in this instance?

PRESIDENT: But he has said that he is not prepared to give the name.

MR. O. M. THOMAS (*Kottayam*): This much I can assure him that it would carry some weight in Mr. Thanu Pillai's opinion. For a century to come, Sir, Travancore must remain a rural State, and the rural population will certainly have continuous and imperative claims on the national expenditure for this period. Are we to spend money from the national purse in such a way as to overlook the growing needs of the ryots and to promote the amenities of the small percentage of population who either reside in or resort to municipal areas? That is a question that will have to be gone into by a systemised Government; and I think before that question is solved, it is unsafe to embark on such a financial expenditure as this. The Law member protested against the present haphazard development of our towns and municipalities. Under the existing Municipal Regulation you cannot legitimately say that our municipalities will develop in an entirely haphazard manner. There are certain provisions in that Regulation with regard to the development of municipal areas, and for the time being these provisions will suffice for the development of municipalities other than Trivandrum. When the Law member moved for the introduction of this Bill, I put him a question whether any municipality other than the Trivandrum municipality recommended the introduction of a Bill of this kind. He said 'No'. I believe when the Trivandrum Municipality referred to him, on a difficult question like this, it would have been in the public interest had he referred the Bill at least to the major municipalities for their opinion on the matter. From Mr. P. S. Mahomed's observations, it seems—I speak subject to correction—that such a course was not adopted by the Honourable the Law member. I believe, at the instance of the Trivandrum Municipality he is trying to rush through this Bill in this House; and I think it is in the interests of the large body of the rural population that I represent to say that we must proceed very cautiously with regard to this Bill. It will certainly eat up a considerable amount of the hard-earned money of the Travancore public. I am not opposed to town-planning; but I am opposed to the tactics resorted to by the Law Member, and I say that, for the time being at any rate, the consideration of this Bill must be kept pending and that the major Municipalities at any rate, must be given a voice in this matter before we proceed to legislate on this subject.

MR. K. P. KOCHUKORA TARAKAN (*Kunnathnad*): സർ, തിരുവിതാംകൂറിലെ പട്ടണങ്ങളിൽ കൂടി സഞ്ചരിക്കുന്ന ഏതൊരുത്തനും ടെൺ പ്ലാനിങ്ങ് സ്ക്രീമിന്റെ ആവശ്യം എത്രമാത്രം ഉണ്ടായിരിക്കുമെന്ന് ബോദ്ധ്യപ്പെടുന്നതാണ്. ഈ നിയമം മുനിസിപ്പാലിറ്റികളെ മാത്രം ബാധിക്കുന്നത് നിലയിലാണ് രൂപീകരിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നതെന്ന് തോന്നുന്നു. എന്നാൽ ഈ നിയമം അനുസരിച്ചു നിയമിക്കുന്ന എക്സ്പെർട്ടിന്റെ ഉപയോഗം വില്ലേജുകൾക്കകൂടി വരുത്തൽ നിലയിൽ വേണ്ട വ്യവസ്ഥകൾ ചെയ്തു നടപ്പിൽ വരുത്തണമെന്നാണ് എന്റെ അഭിപ്രായം. മുനി

സിപ്പാലിറ്റിയിലും പട്ടണങ്ങളിലും എല്ലാവരും സുഖമായി തന്നെ താമസിക്കുന്നു എന്നു ഞാൻ പറയുന്നില്ല. എന്നാൽ മുനിസിപ്പാലിറ്റിയിലുടനീളം സ്ഥലങ്ങളിലെ സ്ഥിതി ഇതിലും കഷ്ടതരമാണ്. മുനിസിപ്പാലിറ്റിയുള്ള സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ കെട്ടിടം പണിയിക്കുന്നതിനു മുനിസിപ്പാലിറ്റി അനുവാദം കൊടുത്താലെ നിവർത്തിയൊള്ളൂ. മുനിസിപ്പാലിറ്റിയിലുടനീളം സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ താമസത്തിനു യോഗ്യമല്ലാത്ത വിധത്തിൽ കാര്യം വെളിച്ചവും കടക്കുന്നതിനു നിവർത്തിയില്ലാതെ കെട്ടിടങ്ങൾ കെട്ടുന്നുണ്ട്. ഒരു കെട്ടിടം തീപിടിച്ചാൽ അടുത്ത കെട്ടിടവും തീപിടിക്കത്തക്ക നിലയിലും കെട്ടിടം ഉരുണ്ടുവീണ് ആളപകടം വരത്തക്ക നിലയിലുമാണ് ഗ്രാമങ്ങളിൽ കെട്ടിടങ്ങൾ കെട്ടിക്കാണുന്നത്. ഇങ്ങനെയുള്ള സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽകൂടി എക്സ്പെർട്ടിന്റെ ഉപദേശങ്ങൾ ഉപയോഗപ്പെടുത്തിയാൽ രാജ്യം ഒട്ടുക്കു ഈ സ്കീം പ്രയോജനകരമായി തീർക്കുന്നതിനു സാധിക്കും. ഈ നിയമത്താൽ നിയമിക്കപ്പെടാൻ പോകുന്ന എക്സ്പെർട്ടിനു അനവധി പണം ശമ്പളമായിട്ടു കൊടുക്കേണ്ടിവരും. ആ സ്ഥിതിക്കു ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ റീല്ലേജുകളുടെ സ്ഥിതിക്കും ഈ നിയമം വല്ലേജുകൾക്കുകൂടി ഉപയോഗപ്പെടുത്തക്കു വാഗ്ദാനം നൽകാക്കണമെന്നുള്ള അഭിപ്രായത്തോടുകൂടി ഞാൻ ഈ ബില്ലിന്റെ മൂലതത്വത്തോടു യോജിച്ചു കൊള്ളുന്നു.

MR. S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): Sir, it was not my object to speak anything on this Bill, especially because I had my own misgivings with regard to the programme fixed up for the day's business. The third item in the Agenda is the consideration of the Jenmi-Kutiyan Amendment Bill. That Bill, I understand, is more than two years old. It had its first reading a couple of years back, and it was referred to a Select Committee one year after its introduction. Nearly, or precisely, one year has elapsed since the Select Committee Report was received. Yet we find only the third place allotted to that Bill in the day's Agenda. The Town-planning Bill does not appear to me to be a more urgent piece of legislation than the Jenmi-Kutiyan Amendment Bill. And I thought that the Jenmi-Kutiyan Amendment Bill would find the first place in the day's Agenda. But contrary to our expectations, that finds only the last place; and therefore I thought if myself and my friends did not speak either in support of or in opposition to the Town-planning Bill, the business would soon be over, and an all-important matter would be soon taken up by this House for discussion.

But it would appear that the Law Member made certain wrong statements. The statement made by him has led to some misunderstandings in the case of some members; and therefore each and every one of us stands up and speaks something about this Bill. *If the Law

[Mr. S. Krishna Pillai.]

Member had analysed the Bill and pointed out to the House that the only important provision contained in the Bill is that contained in Section 5, I suppose, no member in this House, official or non-official, would have any objection in allowing the Bill to be introduced. Section 5 relates to the power that is to be conferred upon the Government in appointing a Town-planning Expert and the staff to be employed by him. It authorises Government to expend the whole money necessary for the appointment of this individual and for the upkeep of a staff. So far as the non-official members of this House are concerned, I think the object of the Bill is simply to empower Government to create a new appointment. My friend Mr. Krishna Aiyangar said that the Government must contribute freely to the new scheme adopted by this Bill. I have absolutely no objection, and I fully agree with him in suggesting that the Government must be in a position or must be prepared to contribute as much as possible. But we are putting the cart before the horse. What Section 5 of the Bill says is that "Our Government may appoint a person to be Director of Town-planning for Travancore and may assign to him from time to time such establishment as they think fit."; so that before anything in this Bill is done, before the Municipalities, or for that matter, any person interested in this scheme, is called upon to do anything, the Government will appoint a Town-planning Expert and will meet the expenses for the appointment, maintenance and upkeep of the staff.

That being done, Section 7 says that the people within the Municipality, the Municipal Council, or the people living in any particular area within the Municipality, shall propose that certain areas within the Municipality or areas adjoining the Municipal limits shall be brought under the town-planning operation and that they shall consult the Town-planning Expert, so that after the appointment of the Town-planning Expert he will be, as my friend Mr. Thomas pointed out, like some of the Departmental heads we have at present, comfortably sitting in their office chairs with a staff and a lot of peons, probably, to help them, but without any proposals being received from the Municipalities. They can continue like that under the Regulation. That is the next important power that is to be vested on the Town-planning Expert under this Regulation.

But Section 10 gives us a slight or small power for disturbing the tranquility of this Town-planning Expert and his staff. This is what the Bill says —

"Notwithstanding anything contained in Section 7 to 9, Our Government may, in respect of any Municipality, after making such enquiry as they may deem necessary, by notification in our Government Gazette, require the Council to prepare, publish and submit for their sanction a draft scheme as respects any land in regard to which a town-planning scheme may be made."

When the Government finds that the Municipalities are not willing to come forward or the persons living in any particular municipal area are not willing to come forward, either because they have no faith

in the working of this scheme, or because they are not in possession of funds, the Regulation says that the Government may slowly move and call upon the Council to do certain acts. The Government will have power to compel Municipal Councils to do some sort of work for this Town-planning Expert. A reading of these three Sections would have dispelled some of the doubts expressed by some of my friends who spoke before me. Mr. Thanu Pillai said that immediately this regulation is passed it must be put into force, the Regulation must be brought into effect and that some towns must immediately be brought under the town-planning scheme.

Under Section 7, the Government can compel the Municipalities to come under the town-planning scheme. If therefore my friend thinks that it is a Bill that is to be soon brought into force and that the Trivandrum Town or the Quilon Town, or, as my friend Mr. P. S. Mahomed said, the Alleppey Town, must be reformed, I believe it will be within the power of everyone of those of us who represent these areas to induce his Municipality or any portion of the Municipality, to come forward with a proposal asking Government that that part of the Municipality, or, for that matter, the whole Municipality be brought under the town-planning scheme. It does not require the help of the Government to start with. The help of the Government is required only after this proposal is received; and I believe after maintaining this Town-planning Expert who, I understand, is likely to be a very expensive individual. Government will not certainly be unwilling to sanction any proposal. Therefore if Section 7 was carefully read, I am certain that my friend would have understood that there was absolutely no objection in bringing into force this enactment. If the municipalities do not avail themselves of this opportunity, the Government might force them to do it, and as I said, this Town-planning Expert, being a very troublesome man, probably would induce Government to put into force Section 10. If the local people fail to do this, I suppose it is not in the power of anybody to ask this Town-planning Expert to do anything by which we shall be benefited.

As regards the parochial instinct, and the expenses relating to this town-planning system, Chapter 6, Sections 29 and 30, when carefully read, enable us to understand what exactly is the position of the Government in regard to the expenses that are to be incurred under this town-planning system. Section 29 says :—

"The receipts of a Municipal Council under this Regulation or any town-planning scheme made thereunder shall form a separate town-planning fund and all expenditure under this Regulation or any town-planning scheme thereunder shall be defrayed out of such fund. No portion of the fund shall, except with the sanction of our Government, be expended for purposes not provided for by this Regulation ;"

So much so under Section 29, Government have absolutely nothing to do with the town-planning fund. The revenue of the State shall not in any case be responsible for the town-planning scheme unless it be by operation of Section 31 which says :—

"Our Government may, subject to such terms and conditions as may be prescribed, give loans or grants to any Municipal Council towards its town-planning fund."

[Mr. S. Krishna Pillai.]

It is only under that Section that the Government will have to be called upon to contribute towards the town-planning fund; and I suppose under Section 31 Government cannot be compelled to do anything, for it says:—

"The Government *may* give loans or grants."

These loans and grants will, I suppose, be like those that the Government are competent to grant under the Municipal Regulation or the Agricultural Loans' Regulation or the Industrial Loans' Regulation or other Regulations. They are simply loans, or they may take the form of grants which under the Municipal Regulation, I understand, they are empowered to grant for the construction of roads, bridges etc., which the Municipalities are unable or unwilling to undertake. The doubts expressed in this House, I believe, must be doubts which must be cleared after reading these Sections. Beyond these four Sections I do not find anything in this Bill which calls for any comment, except Section 24 which says that those who are benefited by the town-planning scheme shall contribute and that the rate at which this contribution is to be made shall be determined by the Board or the Government when appeals are preferred. If, therefore, this Bill is to be introduced on these lines I suppose that the only amendment that I have to make in regard to this Bill is that Section 5, which empowers Government to appoint a Town-planning Expert, may be made the last Section, that is Section 54 of the Bill. Our Government might appoint a Town-planning Expert after a reasonable number of proposals are received or after the Government makes up their mind to apply or extend the provisions of Section 10 of the Regulation to Municipal areas. That was my own impression. As it is, the Bill will only be a measure intended for the purpose of authorising Government to create a new appointment and incur some additional expenditure.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon*): May I know how can that be prevented if this Section is put as the last Section?

MR. S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): We must, in the first place, try to see that all the other Sections of the Bill are brought into force before appointing a man first and asking him to sit quiet till the municipalities or persons in particular areas send up their proposals. That is what I mean by saying that it may be put in as the last Section in the Bill. Precisely, that is the last thing that we want.

Anyhow, considering other Bills as the Jenmi-Kutiyan Bill that is to come up for consideration to-day, I suppose we all agree that this Bill must get only a second or a third place in the day's Agenda. If this Bill also, after being referred to the Select Committee, is to meet the same fate as the Jenmi-Kutiyan Bill, I agree that it is better that we do not push on with this Bill. With these few words, I support the general principle of the Bill.

MR. P. S. MAHOMED (Nominated): ടൗണിൽ ഏതേതു സ്ഥലങ്ങൾ ഉണ്ട് ഈ സ്ക്രീമനുസരിച്ചു ശരിപ്പെടുത്തേണ്ടതെന്ന് നോക്കാൻ എക്സ്പെർട്ടിന്റെ ഉപദേശം വേണ്ടിവരുമെന്നറിയാമോ?

MR. S. KRISHNA PILLAI (Karunagapalli): മുനിസിപ്പാലിറ്റികൾക്കോ അല്ലെങ്കിൽ മുനിസിപ്പാലിറ്റികൾക്കുതാഴെപ്പട്ട ഏതെങ്കിലും സ്ഥലത്തു താമസിക്കുന്ന ആളുകൾക്കോ ഏതെങ്കിലും ഒരു സ്ഥലം ടൗൺപ്ലാനിങ്ങ് സ്ക്രീമനുസരിച്ചു പരിഷ്കരിക്കണമെന്നു തീരുമാനിക്കാൻ കഴിയും. അതിലേക്കു ഒരു എക്സ്പെർട്ടിന്റെ സമ്മതമെന്നും ആവശ്യമില്ല. അങ്ങിനെ തീരുമാനിച്ചുകഴിഞ്ഞാൽ അതനുസരിച്ചു ചെയ്യുന്നതിനു മാത്രമേ എക്സ്പെർട്ടിന്റെ ആവശ്യമുള്ളൂ. ഒരു സ്ഥലം പരിഷ്കരിക്കണോ വേണ്ടയോ എന്നു തീർച്ചപ്പെടുത്തേണ്ടതു പണം ചിലവാക്കാൻ ശേഷിയുള്ളവരാണ്.

MR. P. S. MAHOMED (Nominated): അങ്ങിനെ തീർച്ചപ്പെടുത്തുന്നതിനുള്ള അറിവു ഉണ്ടാക്കാൻ എക്സ്പെർട്ടിന്റെ ആവശ്യമില്ലേ?

MR. S. KRISHNA PILLAI (Karunagapalli): ആ അറിവു കൂടാതെ തന്നെ ടൗൺപ്ലാനിങ്ങ് ആവശ്യമാണെന്നു മി. മഹമ്മദ് തന്നെ പറഞ്ഞു കഴിഞ്ഞു. പണം ചിലവാക്കുന്നതിനു ബാല്യസ്ഥരായവർ പട്ടണപരിഷ്കാരം ആവശ്യമാണെന്നു തീർച്ചപ്പെടുത്തി കഴിഞ്ഞാൽ പിന്നീടു അതനുസരിച്ചു ജോലി ചെയ്യുന്നതിനു ടൗൺപ്ലാനിങ്ങ് എക്സ്പെർട്ടിനെ വെച്ചാൽ മതി. തിരുവനന്തപുരം ടൗണിന്റെ ഒരു മൂലയിൽ ൨൦ ഏക്കർ സ്ഥലത്തു ടൗൺപ്ലാനിങ്ങ് നടത്തണമെന്നു നിശ്ചയിക്കുന്നതിന് ആറു മാസം മുമ്പായിട്ടു ആയിരം രൂപാ ശമ്പളം കൊടുത്തു പറത്തു നിന്നും—ഇവിടെ നിന്നും ആക്കിയാൽ പോരായിരിക്കും—ഒരു എക്സ്പെർട്ടിനേയും അദ്ദേഹത്തിനു വേണ്ട സ്റ്റാഫിനേയും ഏർപ്പെടുത്തിവെച്ചു കൊണ്ടു മാത്രമേ പാടുള്ളൂ എന്നു പറയുന്നതു അർത്ഥശൂന്യമാണ്.

PRESIDENT: The House will now rise to meet again at 2-45 p. m.

The Council rose for lunch at 2 p. m. and re-assembled at 2-45 p.m.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (Mavelikara cum Kartikapalli): Sir, in supporting the main provisions of the Bill, I wish to make one or two observations about the opinions that have been expressed by certain members with regard to certain amendments that should be made in the Bill. One of the suggestions made here was that the provisions of the Bill must be mandatory and that every Municipal Council must be compelled to give effect to this town-planning scheme. As my friend Mr. Krishna Pillai pointed out, there is the provision which enables the municipality to draft a scheme and submit it to the Government. There is also a provision which enables the Government to ask the municipality to draft a scheme and submit it to them. I think that the members who

[Mr. A. S. Damodaran Asan.]

suggested that there must be a provision which makes it compulsory upon all the municipalities to have a town-planning scheme mean that they want that the Government should in all cases insist upon the municipalities to give effect to the provisions of this Regulation.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon*) : Not that.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara cum Kartikapalli*) : I do not refer to him.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon*) : I expressed that opinion and therefore I have got a personal explanation. I never suggested that Government should automatically force this Regulation into every municipality. The introduction of this should not be left to the sweet will and pleasure of the local units but should be decided by some authority who is competent to do it. That was the suggestion that I made.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara cum Kartikapalli*) : Sir, the learned Law Member was saying that one variation which he made in this Bill is that the introduction of the town-planning scheme is not left to the option of the municipalities in Madras while it is here. Mr. Thanu Pillai said that it should not be left to their option. What I say is that we would be going much farther than necessary or advisable if we enact a legislation which would make it compulsory on the part of the Government to insist upon the Municipalities to resort to this town-planning scheme. I admit that the town-planning scheme is necessary in some of the Municipalities, and it will be better to introduce it in some others. But whether we should make it a condition precedent for the existence of the municipalities is a point that should be considered by this Council.

Another question that was raised in the course of the debate is whether the State Exchequer should contribute for this town-planning scheme and other needs of the municipality. The State has been contributing to municipalities and if one refers to the Budget, he will find provisions for grants to municipalities. The learned Deputy President suggested whether the State should not largely contribute towards the expenses of the municipalities. It is on this point that I differ. If the needs of the municipalities could not always be met from its income, there is nothing objectionable in the Government giving a grant to some of them. But whether the State Exchequer should largely contribute to the expenditure of municipalities is a point which should be considered by this House before giving its verdict. Sir, on that point I wish to know if large contributions made from the State Exchequer, will not detrimentally affect the allotment that should be made for the development of rural areas. Some of my friends here think that if reference is made to the needs of rural areas or of particular constituencies, the members are adopting a parochial attitude which should be condemned. Sir, about 90 per cent. of the people of this State live in villages, and only 10 per cent. inhabit in the municipal areas. A persistent cry is heard not only in this Council, not only in the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly but from various parts of the country that even the minor needs of the villages

are not properly attended to. Whenever we wish a small work to be executed or a school to be started, Government plead want of funds: and if in addition to the present economic stringency Government are going to make large contributions to municipalities, I think thousands of poor people in the villages will have to suffer very much. That is why I asked the question whether making large contributions to the municipalities will not detrimentally affect the benefits that are now conferred upon the poor villagers. What I wish to state is that it is the duty of each and every one of us to see to the needs of the country and advocate them. If any member fights shy of that, he will be betraying the constituency which he represents and the interests of the country which he is called upon to serve. I do not think that there is much weight in the opinion that the interests of the country as a whole is different from the interests of the villages that compose about 90 per cent. of the population of the State.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Nor the towns?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara cum Kartikapalli*): I never say that. What I am saying is that the interests of the villagers should not be overlooked.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon*): Will the member allow every one of us to have the right of thinking and forming opinions and will not try to impose his opinions and arrogate to himself all thought and patriotism?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara cum Kartikapalli*): Very well, I will be the first man to do it. That is why I do not quite agree with the member in his view that memorials need not be considered, that public opinion need not be considered and that requisitions made from various parts of the country need not be considered.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon*): I think the member is purposely misrepresenting what I have said.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara cum Kartikapalli*): I do not think I am misrepresenting him but I am only stating correctly his view.

PRESIDENT: As a matter of fact the correct statement he made was that we must be discriminate. He did not say that memorials need not be considered.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara cum Kartikapalli*): If we are going to consider the opinions that are expressed by others, it is the duty of almost every member of this Council to advocate the claims which are advanced by the inhabitants of the various parts of Travancore and not to say that the question of culverts, channels and all those things are of minor importance and that they are likely to stand in the way of matters which affect the country as a whole. Sir, the State Exchequer derives most of its revenue from the tax that is paid by the villagers. It was suggested that the development of the town is highly advantageous to the people who come and stay in the towns.

RAO BAHADUR K. A. KRISHNA AIYANGAR (*Nominated, Deputy President*): Is it Mr. Asan's contention that the provisions in the Village Panchayat Regulation with regard to Government contribution is not generous enough?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara cum Kartikapalli*): I admit that there is ample provision in the Village Panchayat Regulation for granting sufficient funds for the carrying out of the functions of Village Panchayats. The functions of the Village Panchayats are limited. There are so many other items which should be carried on by the Government. And, probably, the learned Deputy President is also aware that though the Village Panchayat Regulation came into existence about seven years back, it has not been put into effect till now and that even now the Government intend only to carry out experiments in a few villages. So, even if there be a provision, even if we have a statute, that has not yet worked to the advantage of the population till now. What I was just suggesting is that if the town is inhabited by people who come from the villages, it is such people that contribute mostly to the funds of the municipalities, and it is in their interests that the municipalities are well governed and all the amenities given to them. The only question raised here is whether we should look first to the convenience of the people who pay or whether without paying sufficient attention to their needs we should spend more money or a larger proportion of the money for the development of municipalities.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon*): Is it the opinion of the member that only after every provincial need has been satisfied and has reached a stage of satiety that other schemes should be embarked upon?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara cum Kartikapalli*): I do not say that. What I said was that in allotting a large proportion to the needs of the municipalities we must consider the claims of the persons who provide money to the State Exchequer.

RAO BAHADUR K. A. KRISHNA AIYANGAR (*Nominated, Deputy President*): Is he not really misrepresenting me? I never said that a big share of the revenue of the State ought to be allotted with reference to particular schemes to be undertaken in future. I said that the town-planning system would require a large contribution from the central revenues of the State. I have no objection if the member cuts it down.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara cum Kartikapalli*): I do not think what the Deputy President said was that it should be more than half, but only that there should be a large contribution from the State Exchequer. That is all what I have stated.

RAO BAHADUR K. A. KRISHNA AIYANGAR (*Nominated, Deputy President*): Eight annas in the rupee, I said.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara cum Kartikapalli*): With these few observations I support the general principle of the Bill.

MR. M. GOVINDAN (*Nominated*): Sir, there has been only general agreement amongst the previous speakers regarding the support to be

given to the general principle of the Bill. Some apprehension was expressed as to whether a costly appointment is necessary and whether more money would be spent in towns from the general funds than in the villages and the necessities of the villages ignored. My own impression is that the whole of Travancore is more or less a town unlike British India where here and there, there are certain villages and towns and all the rest waste country. We have here one continuous village or rather town from one end of the country to the other. I come from a village which is as thickly populated as a town and there is very great necessity for introducing some town planning. But it does not happen to be a municipality. The fact is that we have got peculiar conditions in Travancore unlike conditions obtaining elsewhere and there is urgent need for some measure which will enable the people of Travancore to have sanitary conditions and to have amenities and conveniences of town life living as they do so near each other and living in conditions which require the amenities of town life. This is, Sir, the most thickly populated country in India, and the needs of the people have to be looked into. It is not correct to say that there is an interest for the country apart from that of the town and all that. I differ from Mr. Asan in thinking that there is any diversity of opinion at all. My own impression is that the appointment of an expert is very necessary straightway so that he may survey the conditions throughout Travancore, irrespective of town and country, and suggest the measures necessary for the convenience of the people of Travancore. The funds necessary are not to be confined to any particular place. In fact, the provisions of the Bill themselves show that the financial aspect of the thing has not been forgotten. There is provisions in the Bill itself regarding the contribution from the locality where the betterment has taken place. It is not necessary to fix any ratio or proportion between mofussil and the towns with regard to the share that should come from the general funds and the share that should be contributed by the localities immediately concerned. My view is that the Government may be trusted to spend only as much as is necessary for the convenience of the locality immediately concerned. Of course, economy is all-important in these days of financial distress. But we should not stint so much as to make healthy living impossible. This is a great need of the time and we should be very short-sighted indeed if we are not spending as much as is necessary for healthy living in this small State of ours and discriminate between mofussil and town and make small differences. With these observations, I heartily support the general principles of the Bill.

MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (Neyyattinkara): Sir, I rise to support the principle of the Bill. My friend Mr. Krishna Pillai just now told the House that he was very anxious that the consideration of the Jenmi and Kutayan Regulation Amendment Bill should be taken up without any further delay. As for the matter of that, most of us on this side of the House are as anxious as Mr. Krishna Pillai to see that that Bill is taken up for consideration without any further delay. But since

[Mr. N. K. Krishna Pillai.]

Mr. Krishna Pillai himself who complained at the outset of his speech that many members on this side of the House rose to speak and thus time was spent without the consideration of the Jenmi Kutiyam Amendment Bill being taken up as early as possible, and since he himself did not avoid speaking on the Bill now before the House, I think that I shall be justified in my brief say on this matter.

Now it is only in the fitness of things that the Government should do all that is possible for the advancement of the health, happiness and amenities of the people and the laying out on modern lines of a scheme of town-planning. That an expert officer should direct the whole thing is certainly a commendable idea; and the Trivandrum Municipality, in spite of the observations made with regard to the nature of the present work discharged by it (as disclosed by the speech of my friend Mr. Thanu Pillai, is certainly to be congratulated for having succeeded), in moving the Government to come forward with a Bill of this nature. The financial question involved in this scheme is certainly a very important one. But when once Government accept the principle of the Bill, my submission is that Government should not be scared by the financial implications involved in it. When once Government say that the conditions of local areas justify the introduction of this Bill in that area, and if the local body therein is not able to bear the financial burden, it is certainly up to the Government to go to the rescue of that local body and supply necessary funds. Towards the course of the discussion, an important side issue arose, *viz.*, parochial needs *versus* town needs. As for that, I perfectly agree with my friend Mr. Kunjukrishna Pillai in that it is certainly not desirable to over-emphasise parochial needs. But I have to remind Government in this connection that there is a growing feeling among the public that the Government are more solicitous in providing for the amenities of town life than in satisfying the needs of the rural population; and the public strongly feel that while fabulous sums are spent on such amenities as water supply, electric lights and all that, the vital needs of the rural population are not so much cared for, so that, my point is that the Government have certainly to devote more attention to the rural needs in these directions.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): Who pay more tax? The urban or the rural people?

MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*): Of course, there are various kinds of taxes. But if the criterion is land revenue, I must say that it is the rural population that pays more.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): Total tax per head?

MR. N. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*): Of course, the municipality.

I am sure this is a very useful Bill and it also deals with several aspects of an efficient system of town-planning. Some are apparent on the face of it. I refer to Section 43 wherein large powers are con-

ferred on the responsible authorities, to convict those who are guilty of breaches. But there is no provision made for an appeal on such orders; and I believe such things can be cured in the Select Committee stage. Anyhow, I would welcome the introduction of the Bill; and with these words, I strongly support the general principles laid down in it.

MR. K. GOPALAKRISHNA PILLAI (Parur): I also support the general principle of the Bill. I support it from the point of view of sanitation and public health. Viewing from that stand point, there arises no difference of opinion about contributions, about the share which a town and a rural area should get from the State revenues. It is generally in towns that diseases, especially contagious diseases, are frequent and they spread without any distinction. They do not stop within the four walls of the town. They extend to the country parts also and do havoc there. When the havoc is uncared for, the havoc becomes greater there. So, viewing the question from that point it is the bounden duty of the Government to compel town people to mend their ways and habitations. If they are not prepared to do that, what else could Government do for the benefit of the people in general? Government should look after the welfare of the subjects entrusted to their care. Government should by all means insist on them and even compel them, if necessary by legislation, and raise the people from the miserable condition in which they are now. Therefore, even a measure of compulsion would not be out of place, viewing from such a point of view.

Health is the greatest wealth that people can have. It is from slums in towns that diseases spread and thereby undermine the health of the country parts also. Is it not the duty of the Government to see that the towns are prevented from sending infection to the country parts also? It is the duty of Government to see that the town people do not get or bring any harm to the rest of the people also. So, this measure which helps the towns to plan their extensions and make their houses neat and healthy would be of great help to the people in general.

Another question that was raised here was about betterment contribution. I do not think that a small State like Travancore with 20 or 25 towns should have a full time or permanent town planning expert. It is enough if he is engaged for a stipulated period and as soon as his work is finished, he may be sent away. He should be asked to go to different towns and plan the developments that ought to be brought about in them; the directions in which the towns ought to be developed, the kind of buildings that are to be erected and the sanitary ways of doing scavenging work; when all these are over, his services might be dispensed with. What the members of the House fear is that the creation of a department with a permanent expert at its head is a costly white elephant which might be dispensed with. For a stipulated period, one expert might be employed and when his work is finished, he may be sent away and the working of the plan that he has suggested might be carried out by local bodies such as municipalities. The expert's

[Mr. K. Gopalakrishna Pillai].

business must be only to plan. The expert will do that business and when it is over, the work of carrying it out should be taken by the municipality or by the Government. Then it will not be a costly white elephant as some seem to think.

With regard to the suggestion by my friend Mr. Thanu Pillai as regards the starting of town planning from Trivandrum, I have one observation to make. It is better to begin from minor municipalities because it would be less costly. First of all, they are only developing towns. There will be only very little to be demolished. Only a few dwelling houses will have to be destroyed.

MR. M. GOVINDAN (*Nominated*): Does not the member think there is more need of town-planning in major towns?

MR. K. GOPALAKRISHNA PILLAI (*Parur*): Yes, I do admit that; but it will be more costly and before the people have confidence in such schemes it would be better to try them on a minor scale and thereby show to the people that such a measure is beneficial to them as a whole. On the other hand, if you take up the business in huge towns it will be so costly that Government will not be able to supply funds for them.

MR. M. GOVINDAN (*Nominated*): Cannot the expenditure be spread over a number of years?

MR. K. GOPALAKRISHNA PILLAI (*Parur*): Yes, there is no harm in that. If it is spread like that, tangible results that ought to be shown to the people will not be forthcoming. When a work is done partially it may not give confidence to the people. Therefore it is better to begin from the minor municipalities instead of from major ones.

With regard to the question of distribution of funds between the town and the rural areas, I think the objection comes mainly from one source. Because some of them think that the amount spent in towns is mainly for ornamentation and not for useful purposes. They think it is more a luxury than a necessity. That is why they object to such amounts being spent in towns. But a town-planning measure is more a necessity than a luxury. That is my opinion of the matter. Viewed from that point of view, I think the objection is likely to dwindle down to nothing.

MR. K. C. KARUNAKARAN (*Nominated*): Various aspects of this Bill have been discussed by my friends here and I did not wish to speak on the subject at all. Now after having heard my friend Mr. Gopalakrishna Pillai, I want to make clear one or two points which he emphasised and answered with great force in reply to Mr. Govindan's question. He suggested to the House to begin town-planning from minor municipalities. I beg to differ from him. I would like to point out the difficulties that confront the British Government in developing that side of London which is known as the City, viz., the trading centre of London. Cities like Paris, Berlin, and Vienna were scientifically planned and built up. A man who has travelled in

Berlin, which was remodelled and planned after the city of London was built up, will not be able to see such a dirty place as that part of London called the City. The British Government with its huge finance and the experts at their back are not able to rebuild that part of the London City and bring it up to the level of a big continental trading centre. The only difficulty is that the City has grown up to such an extent that it is impossible to touch that part because the experts are not able to cope with the development which has already taken place in that part during the last so many decades. If we study the history of that part of London City, one could have learnt that. Recently one of the oldest buildings called the Bank of England has been remodelled and reconstructed at an enormous expense. If we follow the argument of my friend Mr. Gopalakrishna Pillai and allow the big municipality to grow as they like and leave them aside and to touch the minor municipalities and develop them scientifically, after some years, our big municipalities, especially trading places, will have to share the fate of that part of the London City. If we begin any town-planning system in Travancore, it is essential that we should begin with the municipalities, especially trading centres like Alleppey, and then touch the minor municipalities.

Another point is with regard to contributions about which a lot of argument has been made. When the big European cities were being planned and constructed on modern lines what they did was they did not touch any of their public revenues. They were authorised to issue bonds and these were backed up by Government which paid for a number of years and the interest on those bonds was promised to be paid by Government. Supposing tomorrow the Alleppey municipality requests the Travancore Government that the Alleppey town should be reconstructed on modern lines or some town-planning system should be introduced, what should be done is the municipality should issue bonds on the strength of the Government and the interest on the bonds should be guaranteed by the Government. In the same way if Quilon town requires remodelling the municipal body there should issue bonds.

RAO BAHADUR K. A. KRISHNA AIYANGAR (*Nominated, Deputy President*) : Does not the member think that the creation of a sinking fund will help in the matter?

MR. K. C. KARUNAKARAN (*Nominated*) : Yes, that is what I mean.

If people want to enjoy the benefits of town-planning, those who enjoy have to pay the money and not the poor villagers who do not know any of these things. Creation of a sinking fund is the real solution.

MR. P. S. MAHOMED (*Nominated*) : ട്രെയ്സിങ്ങ് ഫണ്ടിംഗ് ക്ക് ഊറനാട്ടിലെ വിഷമങ്ങൾക്കും പരിഹാരമുണ്ടാകുകയില്ലേ?

MR. K. C. KARUNAKARAN (*Nominated*) : Urban and rural difficulties can be got over when we put into practice the system of town-planning on intelligent lines.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon*): Does the member recognise the difference between urban areas in Germany and other places and in Trivandrum in the matter of finance?

MR. K. C. KARUNAKARAN (*Nominated*): I was not comparing them with those of Germany. I was only telling the House how new towns were planned on the Continent.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon*): Does the member think that it is practical to have any town-planning scheme executed merely from the sinking funds of the Municipalities in Travancore?

MR. K. C. KARUNAKARAN (*Nominated*): On the strength of the bonds the money will be forthcoming. You borrow money after establishing a sinking fund. Say for a period of fifty years this sinking fund may be going on. That is, you can pay back the money after a period of fifty years.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon*): Am I to understand then that the town-planning should be instituted only after 50 years?

MR. K. C. KARUNAKARAN (*Nominated*): Not that. You can begin the scheme all at once provided you establish a sinking fund. I am afraid my friend does not know what a sinking fund is.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon*): Who will make that contribution?

MR. K. C. KARUNAKARAN (*Nominated*): You must issue bonds.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon*): Do you think they will be sold out?

MR. K. C. KARUNAKARAN (*Nominated*): Yes; I think so.

RAO BAHADUR K. A. KRISHNA AIYANGAR (*Nominated, Deputy President*): Does not the member think that they will be sold out if underwritten by Government?

MR. K. C. KARUNAKARAN (*Nominated*): Exactly. The payment of interest should be guaranteed by Government. Some of the members who were on the Banking Enquiry Committee are aware that some of the European planters said that they would like to invest their surplus money and unfortunately there was no provision in the Travancore Government whereby they could get the investment from European planters. If only the Travancore Government is prepared to issue bonds like other Governments I am sure a lot of investment will be forthcoming. It was Mr. Lampard who put forward that suggestion to the Banking Enquiry Committee. You cannot say that there is no saving in the country. More deposits will come in provided there is scope for that.

RAO BAHADUR K. A. KRISHNA AIYANGAR (*Nominated, Deputy President*): Is not the member aware that raising money on debenture system some years ago did not bring in sufficient money?

MR. K. C. KARUNAKARAN (*Nominated*): That was only during the War. Now conditions have completely changed.

MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR (*Pattanapuram cum Shencotta*) :

Sir, I rise to give my support to the introduction of the Town-planning Bill. The Bill recognises the need for securing the development of urban areas in accordance with a pre-determined plan. The Bill is, in my opinion, a protest against the haphazard development of towns; and I do not see therefore why a clause should not have been introduced in the Bill providing that Municipal Councils *shall be* under an obligation to prepare and adopt town-planning schemes. The Law Member told us that this Bill has been drafted on the lines of the Madras town-planning Bill and he told us also that there is a provision in the Madras Bill that it is obligatory on the Municipalities to adopt town-planning schemes. I fail to see why such a provision should not have been included in the Travancore Bill also.

I have to make a few suggestions for the consideration of the Select Committee when the Bill is referred to it. In Clause 13 Sub-clause (ii), it is stated that "Government may at any time by notification in our Government Gazette vary or revoke a scheme sanctioned under clause 12." It may be that a particular Municipality stands committed to a particular scheme, and probably has partially financed that scheme. If the Government were to take powers under this clause and revoke or vary the scheme, the particular Municipality may be reduced to a very awkward situation. I suggest that this clause should be carefully considered.

Then, coming to the clause relating to the levy of betterment contribution, when a scheme is adopted for a particular area, many poor persons owning lands may be prejudicially affected. They have no option but to give up their holdings, or the contribution for it which it may not be possible for them to do. I therefore suggest that this clause relating to the levy of contribution from owners of holdings by the adoption of the scheme should be carefully considered by the Select Committee. With these few observations, I support the general principle of the Bill.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*) : The Bill has had a general support from the House, to judge from the speeches made by several members; and I do not think it is quite necessary for me to go over all the comments that have been expressed. Perhaps, I may just make a few running observations on some of them.

It was stated by some that a town-planning scheme for a city is a luxury; but Mr. Gopalakrishna Pillai rightly pointed out that it is not so. In fact, as I said before, the poorer a city the more essential is a plan for its development. A little thought will show how from an economic point of view alone intelligence and forethought in the development of towns would eliminate waste and how considerable sums would be saved in after years. Mr. Karunakaran referred, in his speech, to London. London is considered to be one of the most ill-planned cities. It is stated of London that the time, energy and material wasted in merely getting to and from work is prodigious

[Mr. Kayalam Paramesvaran Pillai].

Its cost is calculated to be many millions of pounds annually; and the morning coffee as a pick-me-up has become an institution in many offices there. More and more are workers said to be transferred from creative and productive activities to become carriers and middlemen. I may, in this connection, read to the House, as they may no doubt be interested to hear it what the Ministry of Health in England has laid down in a memorandum in regard to the necessity for town-planning. It reads:

"The importance of providing for the systematic development of areas cannot be too highly estimated. Now less than ever can we afford the waste which has been the result of the haphazard growth of towns in the past; and therefore, in conformity with the measures which are now being taken for economy, wise action is necessary as regards town-planning. For industry, even more than for housing, the gains of proper town-planning are great, by locating factories, workshops, and businesses in the places best adapted for them and by providing betimes for proper roads and other communications and thus avoiding the latter necessity of costly street improvements. The works or measures for which provision is made in town-planning schemes will need to be carried out of course, *only as and when development makes them necessary.*"

Mark the last portion. The works need not be done at once or all together. If a scheme is there it may be carried out as and when the necessity or occasion arises. It is further stated in the memorandum.

"Local authorities should, at the outset at least make their town-planning schemes as simple as possible, concentrating on the two essentials, settling the principal lines of communication and allocating areas for the purposes for which they are best suited (zoning) whether industrial, business residential, or as open spaces; this procedure will make for economy and for efficiency."

Thus it will be seen that what the Government are aiming at is not exactly to provide a luxury but to procure, on an economical and efficient basis, sanitary conditions, amenity and convenience.

In regard to finance, as Mr. S. Krishna Pillai pointed out, the main funds on which the cost of carrying out a town-planning scheme is intended to be a charge are the general Municipal revenues. No doubt the Government might advance money, *i. e.*, make grants, and the Municipality may borrow too. One point, however, to be remembered particularly, is that there will be repayment for what ever is done, by means of the betterment contributions. Thus if a scheme is wisely carried out a house or property may increase in value from Rs. 50 to Rs. 150 and then the Municipality will get good income out of it because the house has risen in value by reason of the scheme having been carried out though at some initial cost. In this connection it will be interesting for the House to know what has been said of Paris—one of the best-planned cities. It is said that over £ 20,00,00,000 had been spent on the great improvements to the City of Paris during the last century or so. It was planned by an expert who because of the enormous cost of it was charged with ruining the Emperor, but the Emperor's property it was found actually increased in value five times by the improvements. Paris today has about the finest road system of the large cities of the world. It is the most magnetic city in the world attracting the spending public from its four corners. The two hundred millions is today regarded as a good investment. Any excuse is said to be good enough for a visit to Paris.

On the question of finance there is one aspect that has to be stressed. It is not exactly the lack of money that stands in the way of a scheme being carried out; and it does by no means follow that if there is money the scheme will be carried out. It is not a question, after all, of lack of funds. It is more a question of control than of construction.

On the question of compelling Municipalities to prepare schemes it may be mentioned that a town-planning scheme can be carried out successfully and properly only if the citizens co-operate, and co-operate heartily. Provision is made in the Bill for the owners of dwellings and citizens being consulted in the matter of town-planning schemes; and if necessary a conference should be arranged between the Members of the Municipality and the citizens, before a scheme is submitted to Government. In fact, the owners may themselves prepare a scheme and submit it to the Municipal Council, so that, if the citizens are desirous of improving a locality, the Municipality cannot lag behind. They will be compelled by public opinion to prepare and carry out schemes that are necessary in the best interests of the city. If in spite of all these, the Municipality does not move in the matter, then the Government can proceed to compel. There is provision for it in the Bill. I am sure, when the Bill goes to the Select Committee, it will be considered in all its aspects and improved if necessary.

MR. S. KRISHNA PILLAI (Karunagapalli): Is there any legislation which says that Government are bound to contribute a portion of the funds?

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (Additional Head Sirkar Vakil): Not that I am aware.

MR. S. KRISHNA PILLAI (Karunagapalli): What about the English and Metropolitan Acts?

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (Additional Head Sirkar Vakil): I have read the English Act as well as the Madras Act. So far as I can remember there is no provision to compel Government to contribute.

MR. S. KRISHNA PILLAI (Karunagapalli): So Government are not expected by any Statute to contribute any funds?

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (Additional Head Sirkar Vakil): I did not say that. They may be expected to help, but the main source is the municipal fund. What I mean is that I do not remember to have seen any statutory provision to compel Government.

MR. S. KRISHNA PILLAI (Karunagapalli): Is there no statutory provision under which Government will be called upon to contribute.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (Additional Head Sirkar Vakil): No, so far as I can remember. Perhaps the member will correct me if I am mistaken.

The question that the principle of the Bill be accepted was then put and carried.

The Secretary to the Council then read the title of the Bill:

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): I propose that the Bill may be referred to a Select Committee consisting of

Messrs. E. V. Krishna Pillai, Messrs. K. P. Kochukora,
P. S. Mahomed, Tarakan,
A. Thanu Pillai, K. Krishnan Nayar,
K. I. Kocheepan, J. S. Westerdale, and
Mappilla, Kayalam Paramesvaran
R. S. Subrahmanya Pillai, Pillai,
M. Govinda Pillai.

MR. L. R. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Financial Secretary to Government*): I second the motion.

PRESIDENT: Mr. Westerdale will be the Chairman of the Committee, and the Committee will submit its report in three months.

THE POLICE REGULATION AMENDMENT BILL.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): I rise to introduce a Bill to amend the Police Regulation. It has been published in the Gazette with a Statement of Objects and Reasons; and I beg to move that the Bill be read in the Council.

MR. T. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): I second the motion.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): The principle of the Bill is simple. It is the amendment of a particular section of the Police Regulation, namely, Section 51, which provides for penalising any person for riotous and indecent behaviour in streets and public places. It reads thus:—

Section 51: "Whoever is found drunk and incapable of taking care of himself, is guilty of any riotous, disorderly or indecent behaviour in any street or public place or in any place of public amusement or resort or on board any passenger boat or vessel, and whoever is guilty of any violent, disorderly, or indecent behaviour in any Court or Police station or other public office shall be liable to a fine which may extend to fifty rupees, or to imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to eight days."

A doubt has been felt as to whether that provision will apply to the disorderly and drunken behaviour in public passenger vehicles. No doubt, the House will concede that riotous behaviour in public passenger vehicle is objectionable as in public streets. To remove this doubt this amendment is proposed.

PRESIDENT: I take it that the motion is accepted?